

# NEBRASKA

## WEATHER & CROPS



Issued by the  
NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

For Week Ending April 29, 2001

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**GENERAL:** Drying conditions prevailed last week, allowing spring planting activities to shift into high gear in eastern areas, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Snow cover in western and northern areas limited field activities early in the week. However, strong winds combined with warm temperatures late in the week, dried soils allowing producers access. Producer focus was on getting spring crops planted with corn planting near 50% complete in Southeastern counties.

Topsoil moisture declined but still rated mostly adequate, with subsoil moisture rated mostly adequate to short.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center.

**WEATHER:** Temperatures last week averaged three to seven degrees above normals in the eastern two-thirds of the State while western regions were near normals. Significant precipitation occurred in most districts. However, southeastern accumulations were generally less than .25 inch, allowing for rapid planting progress. Average wind speeds of over 20 mph occurred during the 48 hour period of Saturday and Sunday in eastern regions.

**CROPS:** **Winter Wheat** crop rated 2% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, and 8% excellent. About 17% of the crop had jointed, this compared to 45% last year and 26% for the five-year average. Producers in the Panhandle counties were opting for ariel application of herbicides due to wet soil conditions. **Corn** planting jumped to 22%, compared to 36% last year and 23% average. Progress was most advanced in East Central and Southeastern counties. **Oat** planting moved to 70% complete. This compared with 99% last year and 90% average. Thirty-four percent of the crop had emerged, well behind 79% last year and 53% average. **Sugar beet** planting was shut down due to the heavy wet snow of a week ago.

**Pasture** and **range** conditions showed marked improvement and rated at 7% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, and 3% excellent. Pastures continued to lag normal development due to the cool spring temperature and the impact of last years drought. **Cattle** and **calves** condition improved with the warmer temperatures and rated 1% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 47% good, and 5% excellent. Calving was nearing completion at 94%. The snow of a week ago in western and northern regions resulted in some reports of young calves being lost in unprotected areas.

### PROGRESS AND CONDITIONS, NEBRASKA, AS OF APRIL 29, 2001

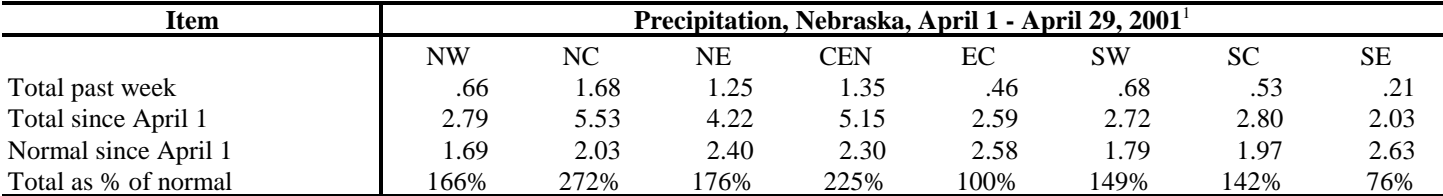
ITEM	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
PERCENT												
% Wheat Jointed	17	5	1	2	14	12	32	17	17	3	45	26
% Corn Planted	14	7	10	9	34	11	14	49	22	2	36	23
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	3.3	3.6	3.9	3.2	5.6	4.1	4.6	6.3	4.4	4.7	5.0	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	0	0	1	1	4	0	9	2	1	23	
	- Short	4	5	6	2	16	13	14	26	9	4	40
	- Adequate	93	95	82	86	80	82	81	64	85	87	37
	- Surplus	3	0	11	11	3	1	5	1	4	8	0
Subsoil Moisture-	- Very Short	0	4	4	5	2	7	10	8	4	6	43
	- Short	24	14	20	37	41	46	26	55	30	35	37
	- Adequate	75	82	74	57	56	47	64	37	65	59	20
	- Surplus	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0

### TEMPERATURE DATA, NEBRASKA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2001

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Mean	Departure
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	85	22	50	---
	Scottsbluff	83	18	50	0
	Sidney	81	25	50	---
NC	Valentine	92	29	53	+3
NE	Norfolk	87	32	58	+4
	Sioux City	87	30	58	+4
CEN	Grand Island	86	33	59	+4
	Ord	84	31	55	---
EC	Lincoln	86	33	61	+6
	Omaha	85	36	62	+7
SW	Imperial	84	27	55	---
	North Platte	80	27	51	-1

Source: National Weather Service, Valley, NE.

## % PLANTED



<sup>1</sup> Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m. Sunday.